

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for creating an item location directory to locate one or more specific items, which comprises:
  - a.) a plurality of sets of different items, each set having at least one item therein, each set having a specified location, and each set having its own unique item-identifying bar code, with at least one item of each set having said unique item-identifying bar code located thereon;
  - b.) a plurality of specified locations, each location having at least one of said plurality of sets of different items located thereat, each location of

said plurality of locations having a  
unique location-identifying bar code,  
each of said plurality of locations  
having a said unique location-  
identifying bar code physically  
situated thereon;

c.) at least one bar code reader for  
reading said item-identifying bar codes  
and said location-identifying bar  
codes;

d.) at least on processor adapted to  
receive inputs from said at least one  
bar code reader;

f.) sufficient programming within said  
processor to provide for recognition,  
organization, storage and presentation

of item-identification/corresponding  
location-identification data pairs  
obtained from said item-identifying bar  
codes and said location-identifying bar  
codes, so as to create an item location  
directory therefrom.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein said unique  
item-identifying bar code is a universal price  
code bar code.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein said unique  
location-identifying bar code is a bar code which  
corresponds to a location selected from the group  
consisting of aisle, row, shelf, bin, drawer and  
floor space area.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein said unique location-identifying bar code is a bar code which includes code for genus data and for species data.

5. The system of claim 4 wherein said genus data is row or aisle data, and said species data is bin, drawer or shelf data.

6. The system of claim 1 wherein said programming includes software which is capable of receiving bar code reader inputs and converting same to item-identification/corresponding location-identification data pairs for location information.

7. The system of claim 1 wherein said system further includes a user feedback unit which includes visual display means for viewing visual feedback in the form of text, or map or a combination thereof.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein said location-identifying bar codes are universal price code bar codes assigned to specific locations and are different from all item-identifying bar codes contained within the system, and wherein said processor is programmed to correlate said location-identifying bar codes to their assigned locations.

9. The system of claim 2 wherein said location-

identifying bar codes are universal price code bar codes assigned to specific locations and are different from all item-identifying bar codes contained within the system, and wherein processor is programmed to correlate said location-identifying bar codes to their assigned locations.

10. The system of claim 1 which further includes at least one directory selected from the group consisting of printed directory, on-screen directory, on-line directory, audible directory and combinations thereof.

11. A method of creating data for directories for locating items, which comprises:

(a) for a plurality of different sets of

items, each set's items being different from items of other sets, and each set containing at least one item, and each set having a specific location, providing a unique item-identifying bar code to at least one item of a set of items;

(b) physically applying unique location-identifying bar codes to each of said specific locations;

(c) reading said item-identifying bar codes and said location-identifying bar codes in a predetermined sequence to create item/corresponding location data and inputting said data to a processor for assemblage into a directory format and for storage thereof for subsequent directory retrieval.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said location-identifying bar codes are each physically applied to a specific location selected from the group consisting of aisle, row, shelf, bin, drawer and floor space area.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein said item-identifying bar codes are universal rice code bar codes.

14. The method of claim 11 which further includes creating said unique location-identifying bar codes prior to applying them to said locations.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said unique location-identifying bar codes are created from



universal price code bar codes which are not included in the item-identifying bar codes used in the method.

16. The system of claim 11 which further includes reading said bar codes with a bar code reader which is connected directly to said processor, is connected indirectly to said processor, or is connectable to said processor.

17. The system of claim 6 which further includes reading said bar codes with a bar code reader which is wirelessly connected to said processor.

18. The method of claim 11 which further

includes utilizing a secondary processor, to  
receive and translate bar code reader inputs  
thereto and to create item/corresponding location  
information in voice enabling format.